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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

APPLICANTS: Beuthan et al.

SERIAL NO.: 09/775,070 GROUP ART UNIT: 3737

FILED: February 1, 2001

TITLE: "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ARTHRITIS DIAGNOSIS"

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,

Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants request that citation and examination of the following documents be made during the course of examination of the above-referenced application for United States Letters Patent.

AL PCT Application WO 99/04683

AM PCT Application WO 99/04684

EXPLANATION OF RELEVANCE

Reference AL was identified and discussed at pages 5, 9, 10 and 15 of the present specification. As noted at page 5 of the present specification, Reference AL corresponds to co-pending United States Application Serial No. 09/463,110, filed January 19, 2000. That application can be used as a translation of Reference AL, but Applicants do not represent that it is a literal translation. Reference AL also contains an English-language Abstract.

Applicants assume the Examiner has access to this co-pending application, and therefore have not burdened the present file with a duplicate copy. If the Examiner would nevertheless prefer that a copy be provided, the Examiner is requested to notify the undersigned counsel for the Applicants and a copy will be provided. The present

application and the aforementioned co-pending application are commonly assigned to the same Assignee, Siemens AG.

Reference AM should have been cited at page 14 of the present specification as an example of a procedure for determining the optimal locus of examination, however, the aforementioned co-pending application was erroneously cited instead. Amendment "A" Prior to Action submitted herewith corrects this oversight.

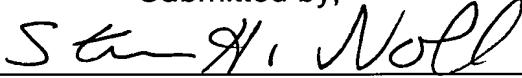
Reference AM also was cited by the German Patent and Trademark Office examination proceedings for the German application corresponding to the present United States application.

Copies of each of the above references together with Form 1449 are submitted herewith.

As of the date of mailing of this Information Disclosure Statement, a first Office Action on the merits has not been received in connection with this application, and therefore, this Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), and no fee is necessary.

All claims of the application are submitted to be patentable over the teachings of the above references, taken singly or in combination. Early consideration of the application is therefore respectfully requested.

Submitted by,

 (Reg. 28,982)

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on July 10, 2001.

Steven H. Noll

STEVEN H. NOLL

JUL 12 2001

O I P E S E R I E S

P A T E N T & T R A D E M A R K O F F I C E

Sheet 1 of 1

37 CFR 1.501
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
IN A PATENT
(use several sheets if necessary)

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Docket No.
P01,0031Serial No.
09/775,070Applicant
Beuthan et al.Filing Date
February 1, 2001Group Art Unit
3737

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If appropriate
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	AL	WO 99/04683	02/04/99	PCT				
	AM	WO 99/04684	02/04/99	PCT				
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							
	AQ							

OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AR	
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	AZ	

Examiner Date Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.